

HELLO AGAIN

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A PERSONAL NOTE: For the first time since 1985, the cost of Hello Again is increasing. Effective January, 1991, the cost of Hello Again will be \$12 a year for 6 bi-monthly issues. Back issues will now be \$2.00 an issue. Sample copies can still be had for a SASE.

If you write anybody and want an answer, it is courteous to include a SASE or at least a stamp...I hope everyone has happy holidays these two months.

LOGS: I have just recently completely revised my log of **Mercury Theater/Campbell Playhouse**. Cost for the log is \$2.00. My completely revised **I Love a Mystery** log is \$2.00 also. My completely revised **Lux** log is \$8 for a chronological and alphabetical log. Also complete revised with more cast and writers is **The Columbia Workshop** and related series. This log is \$4. All four logs have circulated shows indicated...**Ray Stanich**, 173 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, NY 11201 has 2 new logs; **MGM Musical Comedy Theater of the Air** (SASE) and **MGM Theater of the Air** (50 cents in stamps).

CONVENTION 1990: Convention booklets are for sale for \$2.00. They are 32 pages and contain biographies on 4 of our guests, reviews of all 14 conventions and many other items...I will let you know when the video tapes are ready. Preparing them is Don Ramlow, 509 Velvet Ave. Portage, MI 49002...All extra books have been returned to the publishers. I still have a few cassette tapes of Norman Corwin's "On a Note of Triumph" which I will sell for \$3.00. Any monies go into the FOTR treasury for next year...Again, many thanks to the committee. This convention would not exist if it weren't for the dedication and help of many people.

CONVENTION 1991: Dates are Oct 24 - 26, 1991. Plans are to still have it at the Holiday Inn-North. Several people have suggested moving because we have outgrown it. We have considered the drastic increase in cost in moving or cutting out such things as coffee, Danish, hors d'oeuvres, etc. If we moved, because of the increase in cost, we would also have to limit the number of guests we invite, especially the overnight ones and the ones from the West Coast. Therefore we are remaining there as of now. We also have had the same staff for 9 years and have little or no problems each year except for space. If anyone can check out the prices for a place with more room, within 5 minutes of the airport and close to New York, please let me know...Our first planning meeting will be held in January or February in the Marriott in Stamford. We Need more people to help with registration, publicity, the re-creations and many other things. Please let me know if you can help and I will keep you informed of the meetings.

RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL: The Pacific Garden Mission recently honored Jack Odell for his long and faithful service as writer and director of the "Unshackled" radio show. Jack has been associated with the show since the early 1950's...KMPC in Los Angeles is bring back live radio drama. Its most recent offering was "Ducking the Rain," a comedy/detective show...A new syndicated version of "True Detective Mysteries" is in the making by Joe Knight of Star Trax. 45 stations of the American Radio Network will carry it for 13 weeks...**Ezra Stone** recently directed and acted in "Sweet Land," a historical Theatrical musical production, depicting the 275th anniversary of the founding of Bucks County, PA. It can be purchased on video cassette from Sweet-Land Video, 609 Yardley Commons, Yardley, PA 19067 for \$35.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED: Through the Horn (NARA Publication), Vol. 1, No. 3; articles on Lum and Abner and Gale Gordon...**Nostalgia Digest**, Oct - Nov; article on James Stewart...**NARA News**, Vol. 18, No. 3; articles on Hollywood on the Air and Radio on Stage...**Daily Sentinel** (Bob Brunet, 21 West 74 St., New York, NY 10023), Vol. 5 #6; articles on current radio drama in the United States, Charles Collingwood; also November birthdays of

radio celebrities; one mentioned is Richard Crenna, Nov 30, 1927...**Metro Washington OTR Club**; Nov - Dec, 1990; articles on The Cinnamon Bear, radio premiums...**Milwaukee Club Newsletter**, October; articles on sound effects and Charlie Chan...**SPERDVAC Bulletin**, October; articles on Bea Wain and KNX, Los Angeles...**The Illustrated Press**, October; articles on Westerns and horror shows...**Wavelengths**, Third quarter; More information on Fred Allen and his work at the Belmont Hotel in West Harwich, Massachusetts...A new publication is **Past Times** written by Randy Skretvedt, 7308 Fillmore Dr. Buena Park, CA 90620. Cost is \$8 a year for 4 issues. This 16-page publication covers Vintage movies, Music, radio, tv and popular culture; most articles are reviews of new books on the past as well as profiles on different people. I well recommend it...**The Jack Benny Times**, Sep - Oct; more Jack Benny information and articles...**On the Air**, Nov - Dec; article on Jack Webb...**The Times of Kate Smith**, Fall; many articles about Kate Smith; for information about the Kate Smith Foundation, write Dick Hayes, 59 Myrtle Ave, Cranston, RI 02910...**The Bear Facts**, December; newsletter of the Cinnamon Bear Brigade; for information write them at 10419 NE Knott, Portland, OR 97220.

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES: (Just a reminder that these are brief reviews. For more exhaustive reviews, check other newsletters, especially Chris Lembesis's column in the **SPERDVAC Bulletin**). **Hollywood and Broadcasting** by Michele Hilmes, University of Illinois Press, Urbana, IL; 1990; \$25. This well-written 200-page book examines the relationship between the film and broadcasting industry from radio to today. **Lux Radio Theater** is examined in detail...**The Tom Mix Book** by M. G. "Bud" Norris, World of Yesterday, Waynesville, NC; 1989; \$25. If you want the definitive book on Tom Mix, this is the one. It covers all aspects including radio, films, his life, comics, music, premiums. The radio section is 55 pages long...**Sunday Nights at Seven; The Jack Benny Story** by Jack and Joan Benny, Warner Books, 666 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10103; \$19.95. This book is in two parts; the first contains manuscripts of Jack's unfinished autobiography, never before seen; the second part contains Joan's recollections. The book reveals the **Real Jack Benny**...**Fred Allen's Radio Comedy** by Alan Havig; Temple University Press, Broad and Oxford St., Philadelphia, PA 19122; \$29.95. This book discusses Fred Allen's years on radio, his comedy and its advantages and limitations on radio. There are many excerpts from radio broadcasts...**James McCahery** has written the first in a series of books about an ex-radio actress, Lavina London, who helps solve crimes. It is called **Grave Undertaking**. It is published by Knightbridge and it is in paperback at your favorite book store.

ORGANIZATIONS AND CONVENTIONS: A good review of the recent Lum and Abner convention is in the latest **SPERDVAC Bulletin**...**Owens Pomeroy**, 3613 Chestnut Dr., Baltimore, MD 21211 suggests that all OTR clubs exchange video tapes of their meetings. The Golden Radio Buffs have video tapes their meetings since May of 1988. Contact Owens of the Golden Radio Buffs if your club is interested...One of the several clubs devoted to collecting antique radios is **The Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club**. If you want more information, send a SASE to Joe Koester, 249 Spring Gap South, Laurel, MD 20724; (301) 725-4229...**Dan Marafino** of the OTR Club of New York suggests having a common OTR Tape Library with the other clubs. If you are interested, write Dan at 19 Church St., Lancaster, NY 14086; (716) 684-0773.

CATALOGS AND NEW SHOWS: Just received a six-cassette box of 12 recently unearthed Arch Oboler Plays. They are put out by Metacom and can probably be found in appropriate book stores. Unfortunately the shows are not dated.

YOU AND THE LAW: Tom Heathwood brings up a point. Does anyone have a list of programs that are known to have copyrights and to whom. This would help dealers and broad-

casters...More news concerning the "Shadow" case. It appears that valid copyrights exist on 90% of the Shadow programs. They are held by Conde Nast, an organization that among other things publishes Vogue, House and Garden and Glamour. Negotiations between Premier Electronics, who was granted an exclusive license to market the Shadow, and the nine defendants is unsuccessful so far. Carolyn and Joel Senter thank everyone for the support they got for the OTR Defense Fund at the convention. If you wish to help send what you can to the OTR Defense Fund, % Carolyn and Joel Senter, 4003 Clifton Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45220...**Owens Pomeroy** of the Golden Radio Buffs of Maryland suggests that each member of every club contribute to the OTR Defense Fund through your own club.

NEW ADDRESSES: **Rodney Haydon**, 140 Adobe Ln, Napa, CA 94559...**Bea Musick**, #363 - 4425 South Pleasant Hill Rd., Kissimmee, FL 34746.

NEW FRIENDS AND RETURNEES: **Tom Kleinschmidt**, 5815 Tree Moss Ln., North Ridgeville, OH 44039...**Dr. Robert Atkins**, 19 Cliff Way, Port Washington, NY 11050...**Al Kozeliski**, 4789 Onyx Dr., Klamath Falls, OR 97603...**Johnny Dawkins**, 1072 South Cloverdale Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90019...**Dick Raymer**, 1045 NE Alder, Roseburg, OR 97470...**Emory Brown, Jr.**, RD 3 Box 618, Howell, NJ 07731...**Douglas Rosen**, 34 Bethune St, #2R, New York, NY 10014...**Frank Bequaert**, Box 775, Fitzwilliams, NH 03447. Frank runs Rainy Day Books. Among other things he specializes in books on radio, both technical and broadcasting. Write for a catalog. He has many out of print books...**Douglas Slater**, 7058 Autumn Chase, San Antonio, TX 78238...**Judy Abdouch**, 5618 Franklin St, Omaha, NE 68104...**Mel Yahre**, 91 Page Lane, Westbury, NY 11590...**Joseph Fogarty**, 375-86th St. #16, Brooklyn, NY 11209...**Mike Foley**, 105 Broadway, Newport, RI 02840...**Charles Sloder**, 1696 Millersville Pike, Lancaster, PA 17603...**Brad Ashton**, Abbotshall Ave., London, England N14 7JU...**John Hardekopf**, 2225 Monroe St., Hollywood, FL 33020...**Arthur Driscoll**, 5 Popular Ter., Andover, MA 01810...**Bruce Rosenberg**, 462 Birch Rd., Hellertown, PA 18055...**Lennell Herbert**, 4415-17 Briarwood Ct., Annandale, VA 22003...**Michael Lopen**, 2635 Lenape Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19131...**Steven Hager**, RD4, Box 100, Beck Rd., Quakertown, PA 18951...**Chris Otazo**, 500 Belgrove Dr., Kearny, NJ 07032...**Florence Williams**, Box 307, Rockport, ME 04856...**Vinny Gendvil**, 131 Delaware Ave, Staten Island, NY 10304...**Gary Kramer**, Box 528, Mt. Morris, MI 48458...**Steven Kucsma**, 5 Burfield Ave. Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8T 2J8...**Tom Castle**, 261 Central Ave., #168, Jersey City, NJ 07307...**Ruth Bayard Smith**, 99 Glenwood Ave., Leonia, NJ 07605...**Larry Evans**, 6215 Canton Rd. NW, Malvern, OH 44644...**George Naimark**, 87 Canoe Brook, Summit, NJ 07901.

Bob Matthews, 427 East 83rd St., New York, NY 10028...**Arlene Sabba**, 433 East 83rd St., New York, NY 10028...**Ed Berberich**, 13 Gold St., Greenbrook, NJ 08812...**Rich Tabachuk**, 160 Vanderburg Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070...**Eric Baelen**, 104 Old Orchard Rd., Cherry Hill, NJ 08003...**Tom Powers**, 103-15 221 st., Queens Village, NY 11429...**Richard Halloran**, 1559 Hartford Tpke., North Haven, CT 06473...**Richard Hartigan**, Pine Tree Dr., Glen Wild, NY 12738...**Joe Kopian**, 21 Roslyn Dr., Glenhead, NY 11545...**Deirdre DiPeri**, Box 231, Schroon Lake, NY 12870 is looking for shows with her mother, **Audrey Egan**. Audrey was in "Just Plain Bill," "We, the Abbotts" and "Billy and Betty..."**Katy Bishop**, 1151 N. Las Palmas Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90038...**Larry Miller**, 280 Park Ave. South #15J, New York, NY 10010...**Terence Goggin**, 1777 N. Vine St. #409, Los Angeles, CA 90028...**Art Chimes**, 1925 16th St., NW #601, Washington, DC 20009 wants to sell his OTR collection. He has about 3000 shows on several hundred reels. He is looking for a buyer or an organization to which he can donate the reels and get a tax deduction. His major shows include Cavalcade of America, Escape, Gunsmoke. Art has a computerized catalog...**Richard Dean**, Box 203, Columbus, MO 88029 is looking for a Breakfast in Hollywood, on soon after July 18, 1944. On

that show was his great grandmother, Eleanor Dean, who talked about the killing of her husband, James T. Dean...**Joe Miller** of Peter Marino Architects, 150 East 58th St., New York, NY 10022 looking for A Pictorial History of Radio by Irving Settel and Great Radio Personalities by Anthony Slide. He is especially interested in pictures of interiors of recording and radio studios of the 30's and early 40's.

OLD FRIENDS: **Tom Heathwood**, Box 16, Boston, MA 02167 wants microphone ID plates for RCA 77's and 44's; preferable network plates...**Bill Anthony**, 1684 Beryl Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15227 is looking for the LUX presentation of 3/27/50, "The Man Who Came to Dinner" with Clifton Webb and Lucille Ball...**Jim Belpedio**, Becker Junior College, 61 Sever St., Worcester, MA 01609 looking for someone to transfer reel OTR shows to cassettes. The person would then keep the reel; perhaps some additional consideration...**Ray Nemec**, 1424 Heatherton Dr., Naperville, IL 60563 looking for program listings of old radio stations of the 30's and 40's especially WDWZ, KMMJ, KMA, KFNH and KFEQ.

IN FOND MEMORY: **Pat Costello**, Sep 13, 87; broadcast writer and producer; brother of Lou Costello (Abbott and Costello)...**Charles Paul**, Sep 18, 88; Emmy-award-winning composer, conductor and tv music director; provided themes and background music for over 5000 radio and tv shows (Ellery Queen, Aldrich Family, Mr. and Mrs. North)...**Douglas Edwards**, Oct 13, 73; newscaster; 56-year broadcasting career, 46 of them with CBS...**Sam Cook Digges**, Sep 3, 74; veteran CBS executive and president of CBS Radio Division from 1970 - 1981...**Richard Murdoch**, Oct 9, 83; big name in British Radio comedy (Band Waggon, Much Binding in the Marsh)...**Joel McCrea**; Oct 20, 84; screen star; on radio in Tales of the Texas Rangers...**William Paley**, Oct 26, 89; founder of CBS...**Xavier Cugat**, Oct 27, 90; bandleader with own radio show from 1933 - 1944...**Roger Price**, Oct 31, 72; host and moderator on many early tv shows; also on radio (How To)...**Dave Willock**, Nov 12, 81; Film, tv and radio sidekick and comedian (Jack Carson Show)...**Eve Arden**, Nov 12, 82; best known as Our Miss Brooks...**Mary Martin**, Nov 4, 76; singing star of the Broadway musical stage; guest on many radio shows...**Everett Mitchell**, Nov 9, 92; host of National Farm and Home Hour...**Maurice Richlin**, Nov 13, 70; Oscar-winning screenwriter; also wrote for radio (Burns and Allen, Edgar Bergen, Amos 'n' Andy).

Write if You Get Work....and Hang by Your thumbs

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JAY HICKERSON, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514 (203) 248-2887. \$12 a year

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

1990

The Friends of Old-time Radio held its 15th Annual Convention from October 18th - 20th, 1990 at the Holiday Inn - North, Newark, New Jersey. Celebrities present who received awards were: **Jack Benny** (received by daughter, Joan), **Hendrik Booraem, Jr.**, **Norman Corwin**, **Phyllis Creore**, **Bill Herz**, **Betty Mandeville**, **Burgess Meredith**, **Elliott Reid**, **Rosemary Rice** and **Betty Winkler**. Other celebrities present were **Arthur Anderson**, **George Ansbro**, **Barney Beck**, **Fran Carlon**, **Lon Clark**, **Bob Dryden**, **Lucille Fletcher**, **Earl George**, **Bob Hastings**, **Raymond Edward Johnson**, **Robert E. Lee**, **Abby Lewis**, **Peg Lynch**, **Charlotte Manson**, **Bob Mott**, **Ken Roberts**, **Adele Ronson**, **Terry Ross**, **Sidney Slon**, **Margot Stevenson**, **Ezra Stone**, **Arthur Tracy**, **Sybil Trent**, **Dwight Weist**, **Florence Williams**, **Richard Wilson** and **Betty Wragge**. The guests socialized with fans, participated in panels and workshops and re-created 3 radio shows.

The convention began on Thursday with cocktails and dinner. 96 fans and guests attended and talked informally throughout the evening. **Bob Hastings** then reminisced about his days in radio.

Friday began at 9:00 with the opening of the dealers room. 46 dealer tables were active during the convention. 226 people attending dinner with another 123 in the afternoon. Workshops and panels included: **Lux Radio Theater** with Gary Yoggy and Art Pierce; **Bob Mott** talk about his book on Sound Effects and then joined **Barney Beck** for a workshop on **Sound Effects**; Gary Yoggy then took us on a visit to **Duffy's Tavern** followed by the **Dave Warren Players** presenting "Duffy's Tavern" and "Casablanca;" **Jack French** then presented a workshop on **Comics and Radio**; The afternoon closed with **Raymond Edward Johnson** reading "The War of the Worlds." After dinner **Margot Stevenson**, **Abby Lewis**, **Ezra Stone**, **Rosemary Rice** and **Florence Williams** re-created "You Can't Take it With You." **Brad Ashton**, a guest from England, then talked about comedy and radio in England.

On Saturday the panels and workshops included: **Gunsmoke** panel with **SuzAnne and Gabor Barabas**, authors of a book on Gunsmoke; **Mercury Theater** panel with **Elliott Reid**, **Richard Wilson**, **Arthur Anderson**, **Bill Herz** and **Burgess Meredith**; **Joan Benny** then talked about her new book and about her father, **Jack Benny**; "Dracula," the first performance of the Mercury Theater was re-created with **Raymond Edward Johnson**, **Elliott Reid**, **Arthur Anderson** and **Bill Herz**; **Richard Wilson** directed; **Don Ramlow** and **Lucille Fletcher** then looked at **Suspense**; **Ron Lackmann** and **Peg Lynch** then reminisced about **Ethel and Albert**.

Saturday's events culminated with cocktails and buffet dinner for 347 people with another 181 coming for the day. After dinner **A Tribute to CBS** was presented with many openings and excerpts of familiar shows plus many singing commercials. Performing were **Karen and Jay Hickerson** with the singing part and several announcers and performers including **Ken Roberts**, **Dwight Weist**, **George Ansbro**, **Arthur Anderson** and **Lon Clark**. **Norman Corwin** then directed his "The Plot to Overthrow Christmas." It starred **Burgess Meredith** with **Dwight Weist** and **Bob Dryden**.

The awards were then given out. In addition to the ones mentioned earlier, they also included 2 Allen Rockford Awards presented to **Don Aston** and **Dave Warren** for their outstanding efforts in keeping radio alive. Special awards were given to **Margot Stevenson** and **George Ansbro**. Both have attended our convention for several years and have always been willing to help. Four donations were given. They were given to: The OTR Defense Fund (accepted by Carolyn and Joel Senter); The Episcopal Actor's Guild (accepted by Lon Clark); Thousand Oaks Library (accepted by Toni Hagopian and Marvin Smith) and The Kate Smith Foundation (accepted by Richard Hayes.)

I want to again thank all the guests who were very gracious in granting interviews and giving of their time to be with us.

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